

Ms. Victoria J. Rutson  
Chief, Section of Environmental Analysis  
Surface Transportation Board  
395 E Street, S.W.  
Washington, DC 20423-0001

November 25, 2007

Dear Ms. Rutson:

I am a resident of Barrington, Illinois. My home, where my family and I have lived for less than a year, is 1/16 mile from the railroad tracks that run through Barrington. I recently heard that Canadian National Railway Company had proposed a project that would bring at least 15 more trains per day down those tracks. This announcement alarmed me greatly. I became even more concerned when I heard that this estimate did not account for large increases expected in train traffic throughout the Chicago area over the next 20 years. The drastic increase in noise, traffic, safety problems at rail crossings, etc. will affect my quality of life and the quality of the environment in my community.

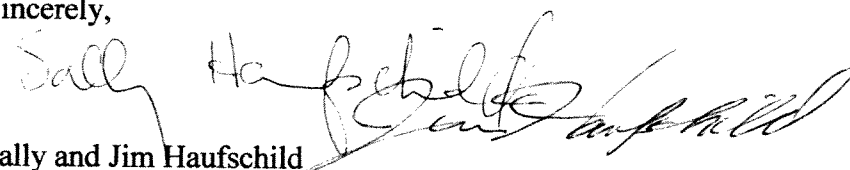
We recently purchased our home under the assumption that the tracks were used infrequently and the noise and shaking of our home would not be frequent enough to impact us. The proposal to run many more trains through basically our backyard would significantly impact both our property values and our quality of life.

In addition, the large number of trains will block access to our community, which is a significant danger (school bus & bicycle crossing) and nuisance (noise & traffic delays). Due to the current road configurations with the 1 track, our family crosses the railroad track about 20 times a day (check on google maps and it's readily apparent). What is the criteria that is used to determine the acceptability of such a proposal? Please send a copy of the pertinent regulations governing this decision.

Request

I have been informed that you are responsible for reviewing Canadian National Railway Company's proposal. I think that the effects I discussed above warrant serious consideration before you allow Canadian National to move forward. You hold the safety and well-being of not only my family, but that of an entire region in your hands. I trust that you and the rest of the Board will thoroughly review Canadian National's proposal for any and all effects on the environment and affected communities. Please do not approve this proposal because our entire community will suffer. Thank you.

Sincerely,

  
Sally and Jim Haufschild  
681 Bent Ridge Lane  
Barrington, IL 60010